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ACTION SS-25

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R 191807Z AUG 75 FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4700 INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

CONFIDENTIAL BRUSSELS 7399

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: CG, BE

SUBJECT: ZAIRE'S FINANCIAL PROBLEM

- 1. THIS AFTERNOON I DELIVERED THE SECRETARY'S LETTER OF AUGUST 13 TO PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS AND ASKED HIM WHETHER THERE HAD BEEN ANY DEVELOPMENTS IN BELGIAN THINKING ON AID TO ZAIRE AND ON HIS PROSPECTIVE TRIP TO KINSHASA.
- 2. TINDEMANS SAID THAT BELGIAN AID POLICY TOWARD ZAIRE WAS UNDER REVIEW. THREE ELEMENTS ARE BEING EXAMINED. FIRST, THERE IS A GROWING CONSENSUS IN BELGIUM THAT THE TRADITIONAL BELGIAN STRESS ON EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE DEEMPHASIZED. SECOND, BELGIANS ARE BEGINNING TO CONCLUDE THAT DIRECT COMPENSATION FOR THE SEIZURE OF BELGIAN PROPERTY IN ZAIRE IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY AND THAT SOME INDIRECT MEANS OF COMPENSATION WILL HAVE TO BE EXPLORED WITH THE ZAIRIANS. THIRD, BELGIUM AGREES FULLY WITH THE U.S. THAT THE BEST WAY TO HELP ZAIRE DEAL WITH ITS PRESENT FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES IS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF AN IMF PROGRA. TINDEMANS INDICATED THAT BELGIUM WILL DO ITS PART IN THIS CONTEXT.
- 3. IN RESPONSE TO MOBUTU'S FORMAL INVITATION TO TINDEMANS TO VISIT KINSHASA IN SEPTEMBER, THE BELGIANS RESPONDED EARLY THIS MONTH BY ASKING THE ZAIRIANS WHETHER THEY WANTED THE VISIT CONFIDENTIAL

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TO BE PRECEEDED BY TECHNICAL PREPARATIONS OR WHETHER THEY DESIRED

TO HAVE POLITICAL LEVEL DISCUSSIONS FIRST TO SET THE FRAMEWORK
FOR SUBSEQUENT, MORE DETAILED TALKS. TO DATE THERE HAS BEEN
NO REPLY FROM MOBUTU.RENNER

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

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Subject: ZAIRE'S FINANCIAL PROBLEM TAGS: EAID, PFOR, CG, BE, (TINDEMANS, LEO) To: STATE

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